

SIMIA LEUCOPHAEA F. CUVIER, 1807 (MAMMALIA): PROPOSED
VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS. Z.N.(S.) 1820

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In 1792 Robert Kerr (*The Animal Kingdom*, Mammalia) described the following primates which he based on descriptions with vernacular names and a figure in Pennant, 1781, *Hist. Quadrupeds*: 176–177, pl. 19 *S. Papio sylvicola* (: 61. no. 7) for the Wood Baboon, *S. Papio variegata* (: 62, no. 8) for the Yellow Baboon, *S. Papio cinerea* (: 62, no. 9) for the Cinereous Baboon and *S. Papio livea* for no. 81 to which Pennant gave no vernacular name.

2. For very many years Kerr's names remained *nomina dubia* but in 1929 Cabrera (*Mem. Soc. espan. Hist. nat. Madrid* 16 : 53) used *sylvicola* Kerr for the Drill instead of *Papio leucophaeus* F. Cuvier, 1807. Cabrera also regarded *S. Papio cinerea* Kerr as a synonym of *sylvicola*. After due consideration I am now convinced that Cabrera was right in his identification of *sylvicola* Kerr.

3. Mr. J. E. Hill of the Mammal Section of the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) also believes (in litt.) that *Papio sylvicola* Kerr must be identified as the Drill, *Papio leucophaeus* F. Cuvier, 1807, and that there is also a case for suggesting that the other three Kerr names also refer to this animal, perhaps to young examples; but for Cabrera's usage, all the names would rank as *nomina oblita*.

4. Kerr's names therefore threaten the stability of *Simia leucophaea* F. Cuvier, 1807, which, except for Cabrera's use of *sylvicola* Kerr in 1929, is in current use for the Drill.

F. Cuvier, 1807 (*Ann. Mus. Hist. nat.*, Paris, 9 : 477, pl. 37) also based his species on Pennant's Wood Baboon and wrote (: 478): "Pennant trouva entre autre choses, dans la collection d'histoire naturelle d'Ashton-Lever à Londres, quatre singes empaillés qu'il ne regarda peut-être que comme des variétés d'une même espèce, et qu'il décrivit dans sa division des babouins à queue courte."

5. In 1895 J. A. Allen (*Bull. Amer. Mus. nat. Hist.* 7 : 179–192) published a paper "On the names of Mammals given by Kerr in his 'Animal Kingdom' published in 1792." He regarded Kerr's work as available for nomenclatural purposes and published an annotated list of species. This includes (: 185) the species mentioned in 1 above. He regarded all these species as not determinable but placed *Simia (Papio) cinerea* Kerr with a query in the synonymy of *S. leucophaeus* F. Cuvier.

6. In 1939 G. M. Allen (*Bull. Mus. comp. Zool.*, Harvard 83 : 157) transferred *leucophaeus* F. Cuvier to the genus *Mandrillus* Ritgen, 1824 with *S. (Papio) cinerea* Kerr as a synonym. Following J. A. Allen 1895, he wrote of Kerr's species "unidentifiable but strongly suggestive of the later described *Simia leucophaea* F. Cuvier." He gave *S. (Papio) variegata* Kerr based on the Yellow Baboon of Pennant and *Simia sylvicola* Shaw based on the Wood Baboon of Pennant, and synonymous with *S. (Papio) sylvicola* Kerr, both as synonyms of *Papio (Cynocephalus) cynocephalus* Linnaeus 1766.

7. Buettner-Janusch, 1966 (*Folia primatologica* 4 : 288–308) has rejected Kerr's 1792 work on the grounds that it is not consistently binominal but the work has been accepted by J. A. Allen, 1895, by C. Sherborn (*Index Animalium*), by the Commission in Opinion 452 in 1957 and by Dr. Hans-Jung Kuhn who has recently, following Buettner-Janusch's rejection, applied to the Commission for Kerr's work to be placed on the Official List of available works (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 23 : 279–282).

8. As pointed out in paragraph 4 above, Kerr's 1792 names may now be regarded as serious threats to *Mandrillus leucophaeus* (F. Cuvier, 1807) which is the current name for the Drill as opposed to *Mandrillus sphinx* (Linnaeus 1758) the current name of the Mandrill.

The International Commission is therefore requested:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the following specific names for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy:
 - (a) *sylvicola* Kerr, 1792, as published in the binomen *Simia (Papio) sylvicola*;
 - (b) *variegata* Kerr, 1792 as published in the binomen *Simia (Papio) variegata*;
 - (c) *cinerea* Kerr, 1792 as published in the binomen *Simia (Papio) cinerea*;
 - (d) *livea* Kerr, 1792 as published in the binomen *Simia (Papio) livea*;
- (2) to place the specific names suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *leucophaea* F. Cuvier, 1807 as published in the binomen *Simia leucophaea* on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.